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NOV 10 2004

In re the application of

Shigekazu NAGAI et al.

U.S. Serial No. 10/674,518

Group Art Unit: 3746

Filing Date: January 10, 2003

Examiner: Wilson Lee D

Title: Clamp Apparatus

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTHonorable Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56, the attached form and document(s) indicate information of which the applicant(s) has/have recently become aware which may be relevant to the above-identified application.

The information is in the form of references which have been cited in a corresponding Office Action from the German Patent Office, dated September 21, 2004, as a foreign counterpart application to the present application.

A copy of the German Office Action is enclosed, along with one (1) reference cited and English language equivalent (US 6,543,223) therein.

The Examiner is requested to indicate consideration of this information by initialing and returning a copy of the Information Disclosure Citation form (PTO-1449) attached herewith.

This information is being submitted before issuance of a first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no fees are due. Notwithstanding, should any other fees be considered due in

connection with this or any accompanying communication, such fees  
may be charged to Account No. 07-2519.

Respectfully submitted,



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Form 10651-0031, 07/31/2006. The use of this form is mandatory. OMB Control Number  
1905-0106.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

<i><b>Complete if Known</b></i>	
Application Number	10/674,518
Filing Date	01/10/03
First Named Inventor	NAGAI et al.
Art Unit	3746
Examiner Name	Wilson Lee D
Attorney Docket Number	CS-2B-031001

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

## **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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<sup>1</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 509. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>2</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup>Enter the Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3.). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor that issued the document must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to be (and by the USPTO) if it is granted) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting this completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

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Substitute for Form 1449 PTO

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*(You will receive about 20 pages.)*

Sheet

of 1

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Examiner Name	Wilson Lee D
Attorney Docket Number	CS-28-031001

### 11.9. PATENT DOCUMENTS

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Chemistra	Data Considered
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**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not claim is in conformance with MPRE 801. Draw line through claim if not in conformance and not considered. Indicate copy of the form with the communication to applicant. \*Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). \*See Kinda Codes of USPTO practice, section 1.14, subsection 1.14.1 or MPRE 801.04. \*Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. \*Grant of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.18 if possible. \*Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to be (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will very depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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